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disk drives or a Storage Area Network (SAN); via that network connection. The described embodiments of the invention contemplate performing "block" I/O operations, although the invention is not limited only to block data transfers and could also be used for file-based transfers in certain embodiments.

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Please amend paragraph 00011 to read:

Although the invention can use any Physical/Data Link layer protocol (i.e. e.g., IP, Token Ring, FDDI, etc) and any transport layer (i.e. e.g., TCP, UDP), one described embodiment uses a TCP/IP protocol run on an Ethernet network. In this embodiment, a computer (the "client") wanting to use storage communicates with another computer (the "target") that "presents" the disks. The target can, in actuality, be a computer, an actual disk drive, or any other system capable of presenting block storage devices to the client over a network connection. Currently DataCore Software Corp. produces such a system called SANSymphony Domain Server (SDS) and the target in at least one described embodiment is an SDS or similar SAN system. Other embodiments use other Physical/Data Link layer protocols (e.g., Token Ring, FDDI, etc) and/or other Transport layers (e.g., UDP).

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Please amend paragraph ⁰⁰⁰¹²~~00011~~2 to read:

A described embodiment has two main software components. One is a device driver that runs on the client (called StpI, where I stands for Initiator). The other is a device driver that runs on the target (called StpT, where T stands for Target). StpI and StpT preferably communicate via a TCP/IP connection. StpI receives commands, such as SCSI commands from the client's device driver, and initiates an appropriate data transfer by communicating with StpT on the target. One command may result in multiple transmissions of data blocks between StpI and StpT.